

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 18, 2003 LB 608, 644
 LR 56-60

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs will meet now in Room 2022; Government Committee in Room 2022 now. The Agriculture Committee will meet in Executive Session today at 1:30 in Room 2022; the Agriculture Committee, 2022 at 1:30. Mr. President, amendments to be printed to LB 644 by Senator Hartnett. Mr. President, the Speaker has referred LR 52 to Reference Committee for a referral to Standing Committee for purposes of conducting a public hearing. And new resolutions: LR 56, by Senator Mossey; LR 57, by Senator Schrock; LR 58, by Senator Schimek; LR 59, by Senator Byars; LR 60, by Senator Byars. All of those will be laid over. That's all that I had, Mr. President. Thank you. (Legislative Journal pages 945-947.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, for those of us who haven't had the opportunity to talk about LB 775 before...and I'm sorry, but I do feel like I've had that opportunity...I hope that we're following some of the things that are being said about LB 775 and some of the things that are being said about LB 270. But one of the things that I do want to respond to is the sort of urban legend piece of this, that part of the reason that the jobs aren't that good, well, the average wage is \$35,000 for 2002. Ninety-eight percent of the companies that receive LB 775 pay pretty good benefits, pay benefits. And the 2 percent that don't tend to be more rural companies, which the rural sector has a much lower rate of paying benefits, comparatively. Bigger companies are more likely to pay benefits. But the most critical thing that I want to say about LB 775, and then I'm going to move on to LB 270, is that part of the reason we haven't had to deal with it a lot, we are one of the first states that had performance-based incentive programs. We are one of the first states that had disclosure. And our disclosure was so extensive...and I'm going to talk about this a lot when we get to the section of the bill that has to do with disclosure. We are one of the first states that had such an extensive disclosure package. So that's why we have not been in the same position. I mean, there are states that literally give a suitcase full of money. And what Senator Landis was talking about, the shortcomings of LB 270, those states are dealing with it because that is the situation for all of their incentive